GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3784
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BELOW POVERTY LINE
Mahato Shri Bir Sing;Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons especially those belonging to the families living below the poverty line in the country as on date.

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to provide employment to them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) As per information available for 1999-2000, around 5.3 crore families are living below poverty line, out of which around 3.86 crore are in rural areas and 1.48 crore are in urban areas. Most of these people though working are living below poverty line. However, open unemployment in the country on usual status basis was of the order of 90 lakh.

(b to c) Government has announced a scheme to provide a legal guarantee for at least 100 days of employment to begin with on asset-creating public works programmes every year at minimum wages for at least one able bodied person in every poor house hold.